THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) One of the main objectives of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is to encourage setting up of food processing units in various States including Punjab. Comments of the Government of Punjab have been sought on an application received from M/s. H.M.M. Ltd. for substantial expansion for manufacture of malted milk food at their existing unit at Nabha, Punjab.

A few more applications have been received from the State of Punjab for manufacture of alcohol from non-molasses base.

Supply of Steel Structures by Aphm & E to Visakhapatnam steel plant

604. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel structures in tonnes the Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery and Engineering Company supplied to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant site as per the contract;

(b) whether it is a fact that 170 tonnes of items taken to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant site were missing there;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there were complaints of misappropriation of Rs. 20 crores in the construction of reservoirs;

(d) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh wrote to the Government of India to conduct an open inquiry into the alleged irregularities; and

(e) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) About 8550 tonnes.

(b) In a Police complaint lodged on 16.2.1987 by Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery and Engineering Company, 169,478 tonnes of fabricated steel structures were reported as missing.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Shortage of Fodder and Drinking Water in A. P.

605. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government had been apprised by the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding the shortage of fodder and drinking water owing to the serious drought conditions prevailing in the state; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken to help the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to tide over the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) While Government of Andhra Pradesh have reported shortage of fodder and drinking water due to failure of North-East Monsoon in some districts of the State, no memorandum seeking Central assitance for drought relief has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Permission to DCM for sale of Land

606. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DCM had been permitted to sell the land at present occupied by them;

(b) the extent to which it is likely to affect the land use pattern of the old Delhi area; and

(c) what steps are being taken to preserve the ecological balance of the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of reply to part (a) above.

Impect of delayed monsoon on agriculture

607. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the monsoon might be delayed by a week this year as per the forecast of the Meteoreology Department;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to meen this contingency in the crop sowing for this year;

(c) whether sowing of crops like paddy and wheat are likely to be affected as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) India Meteorological Department has made a forecast that onset of south-west monsoon over Kerala is likely to be a week later than its normal date of 1st June. The onset of monsoon over Kerala is not related to its subsequent progress over the country and the rainfall during monsoon season (June-September). As per present indications, the total rainfall over the country as a whole during the monsoon season (June to September) is likely to be normal (Normal being defined as 10 per cent of the average value). Therefore, the effect of one week's likely delay in the onset of monsoon over Kerala is not likely to have significant effect on the crops of the country.

Selection of Correspondents/Assistant Correspondents for Doordarshan

608. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of selection of correspondents/Assistant Correspondent in Doordarshan;

(b) the expenses involved in training them at Pune Film Institute;

(c) whether they are likely to be posted in Delhi or outside; and

(d) whether Government propose to recruit some more correspondents?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) TV News Correspondents/TV Assistant News Correspondents/TV Assistant News Editors have been selected on the basis of a written test and interviews.

(b) The expenses incurred on the training comprised salaries as well as admissible allowances.

(c) Since the posts carry All India transfer liability, the officers can be posted anywhere in the country.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration to recruit more Correspondents.

Allotment of Flats at Asiad Village to Scientists and other prominent people

609. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals are under Government's consideration to allot flats built at Asiad Village to Scientists, artists, social workers, and Journalists;